

## A TALE OF TWO FRIENDS

by STEVEN JAMES, DAN EARL AND JOEL VAN EATON

**GENRE:** Drama

**SYNOPSIS:** Two of Jesus' closest friends talk about the night of Jesus' arrest. By the end of the night, both men will realize that their acts of betrayal are the cause of Jesus' death.

**DIRECTOR'S TIP:** Peter and Judas have almost become fictionalized characters like Paul Bunyan and Clark Kent. The key to directing this script is remembering that Peter and Judas were real people who felt compelled to make the real choices they made. In the case of Judas, he believed he was doing what was right. For Peter, the choice was a matter of life or death. Read the script and corresponding passages of Scripture, and ask God to give you a fresh perspective on these two men.

**TIME:** Under 5 minutes

**CAST BREAKDOWN:** 2

**TOPIC:** Good Friday, Sin, Biblical Times

**SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** Mark 14:66-72, John 11:45-53

**CHURCH YEAR SEASON:** Easter

**SUGGESTED USE:** Good Friday Service, Worship Service

**CHARACTERS:**

PETER - A friend of Jesus

JUDAS - A friend of Jesus

**PROPS:** None

**COSTUMES:** Contemporary, casual dress

**SOUND:** 2 wireless mikes

**LIGHTING:** Two individually lit areas

**SETTING:** General

**Drama Ministry**

service@DramaMinistry.com  
www.DramaMinistry.com  
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*PETER and JUDAS ENTER simultaneously. JUDAS stands stage right. PETER stage left. Spotlight on each of them. The rest of the stage is black.*

**JUDAS:** He was my friend. He had been for, oh, a couple years. He chose me.

**PETER:** He confused me. I never really understood what he was talking about. I didn't get it. It just didn't make any sense.

**JUDAS:** I was really honored that morning when he announced my name along with the other eleven. Not everyone was chosen. I was. And he trusted me. That's why he let me handle the money for our group. And I was gonna make him proud. It was my chance to be part of something big!

**PETER:** Everything's been so different since that day I left my nets to follow him... I was a part of something big! I was in on the ground floor! And then came the night in the garden.

*(SFX: Gentle sound of crickets chirping in the background)*

**JUDAS:** Things didn't go quite as planned. Jesus wasn't taking control like he should have. He kept talking about power and kingdoms and stuff, but all the time he didn't do anything... Just talk... He wouldn't let the people crown him king. He just withdrew by himself instead... I guess I got antsy and frustrated... I don't remember when the thought first occurred to me. But after it did, I couldn't get it out of my mind. Yeah, maybe I could help move things along.

**PETER:** It was cold that night. And it'd already been a long day. I was tired and confused. We couldn't believe he'd been arrested. I didn't know what to do. Nothing made sense anymore.

**JUDAS:** So I talked to Caiaphas. And the way he explained it, well, it started to make sense to me. I mean, Caiaphas was only interested in preventing bloodshed... Finally, I knew my time had come. I knew what I had to do.

**PETER:** A few men had started a campfire. Everyone was talking in whispers when all of a sudden this little girl says it, loud enough for everyone to hear. "Hey! Look at him! He was with them!"

**JUDAS:** I led them through the garden. A trail of lights behind me. I was their guide. I was the one they were following.

**PETER:** Everyone looked at me. I didn't know what to say. "Me? Huh. No. I don't know him." I slipped away from the fire into the cold where I hoped no one would bother me. But I stayed close enough to hear them talk.